

Claims

1. A nutritional composition comprising a protein, a lipid and a carbohydrate source, which composition has an energy content of at least 1.3 kcal per ml, wherein the protein source:
- provides from 20 to 30% of the energy of the composition;
comprises 40 to 80% by weight of casein and from 60-20% by weight of whey;
comprises from 0.5 to 20 μ g of TGF- β per 100 kcal of the composition;
and
comprises free glutamine in a quantity such as to provide from 2 to 15% of the energy of the composition.
2. The composition according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the TGF- β is TGF- β 2 provided by acid casein and wherein the casein component of the protein source contains at least enough acid casein to provide the TGF- β 2.
3. The composition according to Claim 2, wherein the composition comprises from 1.5 to 4 μ g of TGF- β 2 per 100kcal.
4. The composition according to any preceding claim, wherein the energy content is from 1.2 to 2 kcal/ml.
5. The composition according to any preceding claim, wherein the free glutamine provides from 5 to 10% of the energy of the composition.
6. The composition according to any preceding claim, wherein the lipid source provides from 25 to 45% of the energy of the composition.
7. The composition according to any preceding claim, wherein the lipid source comprises, in percent by weight of the lipid source, from 30 to 70% of medium chain triglycerides.
8. The composition according to any preceding claim, wherein the carbohydrate source provides from 25 to 55% of the energy of the composition

9. The use of a composition according to any one of claims 1 to 8 in the manufacture of a nutritional formulation or supplement for alleviating and/or reducing side effects of chemotherapy and/or radiotherapy.

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10. The use of claim 9, wherein the side effects of chemotherapy and/or radiotherapy include diarrhoea, stomatitis, mucositis and increased intestinal permeability.

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11. The use of a composition according to any one of claims 1 to 8 in the manufacture of a nutritional formulation or supplement for providing nutrition to patients suffering from cancer during periods of chemotherapy and/or radiotherapy treatment and immediately after such periods of treatment.

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